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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET**SUBJECT:** (Optional)

Soviet Statements on ABM Treaty

EXTENSION

NO.

FBIS 1026-85

DATE

7 NOV 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1. Deputy Director for
Science and Technology
Room 6E45 Headquarters

2.

3. Executive Registry
Room 7E12 Headquarters

4.

5. Executive Secretary
Room 7E13 Headquarters

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Attached is a memorandum that was sent along with a stack of printouts to the NSC in response to the request, relayed by you, for a survey of Soviet public statements on the ABM treaty's application to future systems. Jock Scharfen of the NSC called FBIS separately and asked for the material urgently by 7 November and came by to pick it up. He stressed that time was of the essence and said no coordination was necessary.

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FBIS 1026-85
7 November 1985

MEMORANDUM TO: William F. Martin
Executive Secretary
National Security Council

FROM:

[redacted]
Chief, USSR/Europe Division
FBIS Analysis Group

SUBJECT: Soviet Statements on ABM Treaty

1. Attached materials respond to your request of 1 November for a survey of Soviet public statements interpreting the 1972 ABM Treaty's application to future ABM systems, particularly statements pertaining to other physical principles as set forth in Agreed Statement D. The materials fall into two categories: (1) Computer printouts on statements about the ABM Treaty that were requested in a phone conversation with [redacted] and (2) selected full texts of statements that will allow you ready access to a sample of the most significant Soviet comment on the subject.

2. Computer printouts: We have no automated theme file or automated file of complete texts of Soviet authoritative statements that responds specifically to your request, so the computer printouts include material that is not directly relevant to your needs and may exclude material that might be of interest, although the latter is less likely. All the printouts were generated through searches for the terms "ABM," "antiballistic," and "treaty." The printouts, labeled by period and data base, are as follows:

- a. A search from January 1972 to February 1984 of the FBIS PASKEY file of thematic excerpts of authoritative Soviet statements on specific subjects, including disarmament.
- b. A search of an automated file of selected texts of authoritative Soviet statements from March 1984 to 15 September 1985.
- c. A search of automated incoming Soviet media materials--both authoritative and nonauthoritative--from 15 September to 5 November 1985. This last, large segment covers the period during which no authoritative files have yet been segregated in the automated system.

3. Statement texts: The texts are intended to give you a good sample of statements that come closest to addressing the specific subjects of interest directly. However, there are some general

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statements from earlier periods when no events prompted Soviet spokesmen to offer detailed interpretations of the ABM Treaty. The texts fall into three chronological categories:

a. Statements from the signing of the ABM Treaty in May 1972 to President Reagan's speech on the Strategic Defense Initiative in March 1983: The ABM treaty was rarely discussed in detail during this period; however, we have included an article from a June 1972 New Times that dealt with the subject in unusual depth and a report on remarks by then-Soviet Defense Minister Andrei Grechko at a 29 September 1972 session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Grechko's reference to research aimed at defending "the country" against nuclear missile attack is not known to have ever been repeated by an authoritative Soviet spokesman and, therefore, cannot be taken to represent accepted Soviet policy.

b. Statements from April 1983 to September 1985: During this period the ABM Treaty and its relationship to SDI was frequently discussed by the Soviets, although the narrower issues you are interested in were rarely raised. The most extensive discussion was contained in a 4 June 1985 Pravda article by Soviet Chief of Staff and First Deputy Defense Minister Sergey Akhromeyev.

c. Statements following National Security Affairs Adviser McFarlane's 6 October comments on the ABM Treaty: Since 6 October the questions of the treaty's application to future systems and Agreed Article D have frequently been raised by spokesmen criticizing the position outlined by Mr. McFarlane. We have included a sample of the highest level and most detailed comment.

4. We hope that this material will meet your needs. If you have any further questions, please call me at



(cc: 

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